

REMARKS

Claims 8 to 14 are currently pending. The drawings were objected to not showing every feature of the claimed invention. Claims 8 to 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 8, 9, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,488,238 to Battisti ("Battisti"). Claims 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by U.S. Patent No. 6,488,238 to Battisti ("Battisti"). Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by U.S. Patent No. 6,488,238 to Battisti ("Battisti") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,729,846 to Wobben ("Wobben").

Claims 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 have been amended. Claims 15 to 17 have been added. Support for the amendments and new claims is found at [0017] to [0021] for example.

Reconsideration of the application based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Objections to the Drawings

The drawings were objected to not showing every feature of the claimed invention.

Applicants have amended claim 13 to recite the embodiment shown in Fig. 2.

Withdrawal of the objection is hereby respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph

Claims 8 to 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

The terms microstructured or microprofiled are well-known in the art and refer to an element having a structure designed or profiled on the micro-scale. See for example the web print out attached with the definition of microstructured. In fact, the term "micro" is well understood in the art, as indicated by the Examiner's primary reference Battisti, which discusses a "micro porous structure."

Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph to claims 8 to 14 is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 8, 9, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,488,238 to Battisti ("Battisti").

Claim 8 has been amended to recite "the suction side of the blade having a non-micro-profiled and non-micro-structured area in a flow acceleration section, and having at least one micro-profiled or micro-structured area for optimizing flow around the blade between the front edge and the rear edge of the suction side in a flow deceleration section." Support is found at [0017] for example.

Battisti does not show this feature and actually shows its micropores at areas where acceleration takes place. In fact, Battisti clearly requires its micropores in the flow acceleration sections. This is likely due to the fact that Battisti attempts to draw air into its hollow blades.

Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) to claims 8, 9, 13 and 14 is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by U.S. Patent No. 6,488,238 to Battisti ("Battisti"). In view of the above, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) to claims 10 and 11 is respectfully requested.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by U.S. Patent No. 6,488,238 to Battisti ("Battisti") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,729,846 to Wobben ("Wobben").

In view of the above, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) to claim 12 is respectfully requested.


CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

If any additional fees are deemed to be due at this time, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully submitted,

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Definitions of microstructured on the Web:

- Having a microstructure; a structure designed on the micro scale
en.wiktionary.org/wiki/microstructured

define:microstructured

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